road constructed in the Western Hemisphere. The Stourbridge Lion (presently in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington), the first steam locomotive to run on tracks in the United States, was built for, and made its first run on, this line (August 8, 1829). In 1830, the Gravity Railroad was opened for general freight. In 1859, passenger service was instituted. In 1898, operation by gravity and inclined planes was discontinued. In 1899, the line was changed to standard guage and operated throughout its entire length by steam locomotive as an integral portion of the lines of the D&H. Several of the passenger cars from the Gravity Railroad are extant, and are in private collections in Carbondale.

3. CARBONDALE IS LOCATED IN AN IMPORTANT TOURIST AREA

Tourism is Pennsylvania's fastest growing industry, and northeastern Pennsylvania is one of the areas in Pennsylvania where tourism is growing the fastest. Carbondale is located less than three hours from New York City and Philadelphia. Four interstate highways (80, 81 84, 384), the Pennsylvania Turnpike and U. S. Routes 6 and 11 all pass through the area. The Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport is less than one hour from Carbondale. Located in the Pocono Mountains in the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, Carbondale is located in an area that attracts summer and winter visitors from the most densely populated area on the eastern seabord. These visitors come to northeastern Pennsylvania, not only to enjoy its abundant recreational facilities, but also to visit the important museums of the area: Anthracite Museum (Scranton), Everhardt Museum (Scranton), Anthracite Museum (Hazleton), Pennsylvania Canal Museum (Easton). In addition, the Pennsylvania state railroad museum, the Strasburg Railroad Museum, attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors to Pennsylvania (345,000 passengers rode the steam line last year and 130,000 persons visited the museum at Strasburg). Virtually all of the visitors who come to northeastern Pennsylvania, either to enjoy its recreational facilities or its museums, would visit the Steamtown Museum Collection were it located in Carbondale.

4. CARBONDALE WELCOMES NEW INVESTORS IN THE AREA AND OFFERS THEM IMPORTANT TAX INCENTIVES TO DO SO

Who am I and why am I writing you this letter. I am a private citizen who is, at the same time, President of the Committee to Restore Carbondale City Hall, Inc. This Committee was organized last November by a group of citizens from Carbondale who are interested in investing in Carbondale's future. We are, at present, restoring Carbondale City Hall, the most important public building in Carbondale and one of the few extant Romanesque Revival public buildings in northeastern Pennsylvania. Since the formation of the Committee, other restoration groups have formed in Carbondale. Three important Main Street buildings are presently being restored, and many other